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Europe reacts as Reagan men find their feet

The side-effects are always the same when power changes hands in the White House, yet with equal regularity Europe seems unable or unwilling to anticipate them. This is doubtless partly due to its own interests. Europe would dearly like to know as soon as possible what policies the new US administration proposes to pursue. It is also keen to find out how the United States intends to define the US national interest. But a straight answer is often not available. Instead there are confusing signals, hardly seem to admit of conclusive answers, so confusing indeed that they immediately give rise to alarm as to whether US policy makes sense. This is because not only the new President but also the members of his administration reappraise all the problems they have taken over, doing so with a view to making a fresh start on as many issues as possible.

This urgency runs counter to the time it then takes to fashion logical and cohesive policies out of this reappraisal. Curiously is particularly marked in respect of the Reagan administration because the Republican defeat of Mr Carter, a sitting Democratic President, is felt to have marked a deep-rooted change in US policy.

It is seen as indicating profounder changes than are usually associated with a change of power in Washington. The basic tenor of US opinion is felt to have changed, with all that entails for day-to-day politics.

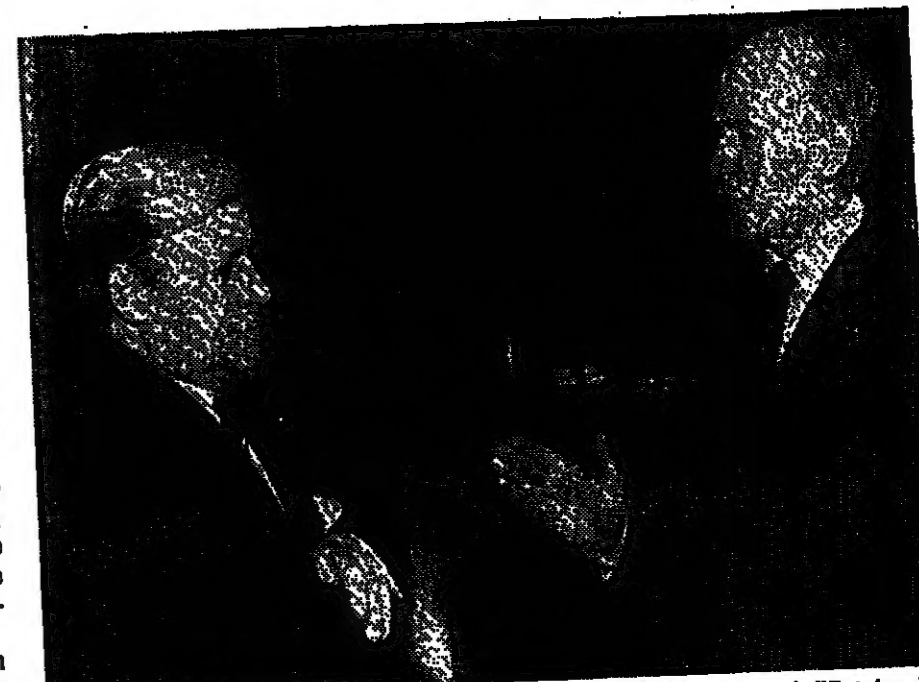
But there is another factor too, given that a change of power at the White House is always seen as a juncture for America's allies in Europe to redefine their fundamental interests and impress them on the new US administration.

At present the European countries are not in the best of shape. In many of them the political forces on which the governments rely for support are at loggerheads.

They seem to have grown uncertain as to what the national interest is. As a result the signals put out by the new US administration promptly enter into domestic issues.

This certainly applies to West Germany at the moment. Chancellor Schmidt and the French President have just issued a joint policy declaration clear enough to form a sound basis for putting across European interests to the United States.

But is the Franco-German declaration and all the consequences it entails still supported by the Chancellor's Social Democratic Party? This too is a question



Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing at the 37th Franco-German summit in Paris. (Photo: dpa)

to which a clear answer is urgently needed.

Europe is obviously interested for the most part in the way the new US administration proposes to conduct foreign policy. But let there be no misunderstanding: initially President Reagan will be concerned mainly with economic policy.

One of the reasons why the Carter administration was defeated at the polls was its failure to cope with the problems of unemployment, inflation and the decline in US economic productivity. What is more, US government spending obliged the Federal Reserve Bank to pursue a policy of record interest rates.

America's economic difficulties led, moreover, to a fatalistic outlook that has not exactly been conducive to the US optimistically taking the lead in the Western world.

President Reagan reckons putting paid to this fatalism is one of his main tasks. The way in which he solves it will partly decide the political impetus with which the United States enters the international arena.

Security policy is likewise closely linked with the economic programme of the Reagan administration. The President reckons his deflationary cost-cutting programme can be reconciled with higher defence spending.

He gives priority to higher defence expenditure because, as he sees it, the United States no longer enjoys military superiority over the Soviet Union.

The US domestic dispute over Salt 2 in the past year or two well have diverted attention from the facts of the matter, which are that America no longer has the edge over Russia in conventional, not strategic arms.

Europe is far from happy about this state of affairs and would not rate a bid to bridge the gap as a breach of the policy of striking a balance of power on which it is so keen in ties between the superpowers.

Interestingly enough, the announcement by Defence Secretary Weinberger that America is reconsidering neutron bombs for tactical use by US forces in Europe is an admission of weakness in the conventional military sector.

Any contribution Europe might be able to make towards offsetting this conventional weakness would be likely to nudge US policy in the direction Europe desired.

Mr Weinberger's announcement was, incidentally, the most characteristic instance yet of the departmental reappraisal that is typical of a change of government in the United States.

Secretary of State Haig promptly reassured America's allies in Europe that there would be no unilateral US decisions taken before they had been suitably consulted.

Comprehensive consultations with Europe on the prospects of harmonising

Schmidt and Giscard aim at stabilisation

The communiqué is thus a catalogue of fears and warnings, but it also marks a historic turning point in that détente, a much-misused and threadbare term, is no longer mentioned.

It was presumably so fraught with meaning that there was felt to be no way of salvaging it, Chancellor Schmidt may well have wanted to do so but President Giscard d'Estaing's new realism seems to have prevailed.

Its place has been taken by stabilisation, a term that as yet has a sober, level-headed ring. Stabilisation presupposes a "security-policy balance" of power.

Each side is to have the same military power. This implies that America's interest in equipping itself with an even bigger stock is inappropriate.

The remainder of the communiqué is more or less a collection of vain hopes

such as that of moderation on the oil price front. Moderation indeed is recommended as a yardstick for the conduct of world affairs. "Something of a truce, isn't it?"

Hopes of close cooperation between Washington, Paris and Bonn are likewise expressed. This too is splendid but would seem to put paid to equally optimistic hopes of a European disarmament conference.

Mention is again made of confidence-building measures from the Atlantic to the Urals, as though, now détente has been replaced by stabilisation, it too is expected to end at the arbitrary border between Europe and Asia.

All told, the communiqué of the latest round of Franco-German talks is by no means free of populist illusions.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 February 1981)

Continued on page 2

WORLD AFFAIRS

Bonn hopes to breathe fresh life into European Union idea

Great days lie in store for Europe, if words and good intentions are any guide. President Giscard d'Estaing of France, for instance, is busy thinking up new foreign policy moves to be undertaken after his re-election in May.

The British Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, announced last autumn, with every encouragement from Bonn, that when Britain chairs the EEC Council of Ministers later this year Whitehall will be strongly in favour of fostering a common foreign policy.

Bonn's Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, has met with a remarkable response to his appeal for a fresh start towards setting up a European Union.

But good intentions alone are not enough, as the endless tug-of-war over fishing quotas in EEC waters clearly indicates.

Even so, Herr Genscher would appear to be right in trying to ensure that the idea of integration is not flogged to death by the clash of interests on partial issues.

He is also right in redirecting attention to the political objectives of the European Community. But he must not make do with merely having launched a few thought-provoking ideas.

As soon as possible specific views and proposals need to be submitted.

What can realistically be expected to happen? Alongside further development and the first enlargement of the EEC in 1973 a number of important European policy features have made their appearance in recent years.

First and foremost, perhaps, there has been the regularisation of EEC summits, the European Council, under the aegis of which the first link was established between treaty-based EEC development and freely agreed political cooperation (EPC).

Then there have been the establishment of the European Monetary System (EMS), direct elections to the European



Assembly and the accession of Greece as the first of several new member-countries.

All these moves, apart from Greek accession and the southward expansion of the EEC, have been undertaken without an international law basis.

The European Council sees itself as more than a mere instrument of the European Community; it rates itself the highest political authority in Europe.

The European Assembly is keen to gain political influence and establish greater control over what goes on in the EEC.

The EMS is still in its early days and has yet to be incorporated in the legal system of the Community.

Last not least, European Political Cooperation may have achieved significant progress and results, but it too still has to rely on improvisation.

Yet all these features could be incorporated in a closed framework. At the same time a number of details such as the establishment of an EPC secretariat and relations between the new institu-

tions and the European Assembly (and, indeed, where the European Parliament is to be finally based) could be clarified.

This is all strictly feasible, and what is more, it would bring home to people in Europe more clearly than hitherto what has already been accomplished in Europe. A new groundwork for further European integration would have been laid.

This and other aspects are clearly outlined in the 1976 Tindemans Report and in the report of the Three Wise Men, both of which have been at the disposal of the European Council for some time without conclusions having been reached.

So apart from the formal decision nothing really new would need doing, and the decision might take the form of a joint declaration by EEC governments or parliaments to the effect that these features were to be incorporated under the aegis of the European Council.

Once this decision was ratified there would be no reason for not talking in terms of a European Union. The United States of America began with less.

Yet maybe it would be better to allow opinion in member-countries time to consolidate, setting about the next steps in this direction instead (but without allowing too much time to elapse).

Nato faces a fresh test with the re-ignition of the neutron bomb "to the agenda in the middle of a debate whether the 572 Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles should even be based in Europe by autumn 1983.

The neutron device was shelved three years ago, or so it seemed, but Defence Secretary Weinberger has resurrected it with a proposal to reinstate it in Nato's strategic calculations.

The proposal could hardly have come at a more difficult time. A group of Social Democratic MPs in Bonn recently advocated cuts in defence spending that cast doubts on their readiness to abide

by the December 1979 Nato decision to modernise nuclear armament in Western Europe.

Mr Weinberger's move is also likely to upset the apple cart for Belgium and Holland, where the governments are having great difficulty in convincing either their parliaments or public opinion of the need to station 48 Cruise missiles in each country.

The Kremlin promptly protested against any idea of reactivating the neutron bomb debate, so trouble surely lies ahead.

Moscow is likely to press ahead with the manufacture of SS-20 missiles, each packing three warheads aimed at targets in Western Europe, and Backfire bombers.

The Russians can hardly be expected now to negotiate with the West on a limitation of these weapons systems as envisaged in the twofold Nato arms modernisation decision.

They are particularly sensitive on this issue because they do not yet have plans of their own to manufacture a neutron device.

Admittedly, the US Defence Secretary's maxim is doubtless that tough talk is the only language the Russians understand, but at the same time the Americans have let loose a whirlwind their allies in Europe will find hard to handle on the home front.

In 1978, when President Carter first suggested going ahead with construction of the neutron bomb, they were almost universally opposed to the idea.

The European countries are afraid of this mysterious weapon which destroys all life yet leaves walls standing.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 8 February 1981)

Washington reactivates plan to develop neutron device

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But European union must not be security policy merely because it has the past been felt to be a hindrance to greater integration.

Initially only first steps may be possible, but they could extend beyond existing arms control coordination to framing of joint framework proposals.

A European Union must, in the analysis, be a defence union. Nato could only benefit from the establishment of a firm European standard alongside America.

Chancellor Schmidt, in his Paris talks with President Giscard d'Estaing, will also have dealt with the prospects and with the role their parties can play as the motive force for integration.

The deadline for this first step is the launch of a European Union until late spring, however, when Giscard d'Estaing is sure of re-election.

We will then see whether the European Community can live up to high esteem and high expectations shown in it all over the world.

Europeans certainly appear to be faint-hearted to a degree out of all proportion to this major international venture, and nothing could be more generous than empty words.

The very opposite of the situation Herr Genscher hoped to trigger off if it were all to have been more than a verbal exercise, a king speech balloon that soon bursts.

When you foster European hopes, days you have to fulfill them too.

(General-Anzeiger, 3 February 1981)

HOME AFFAIRS

Bonn coalition emerges from a shaky start with major policy questions unanswered

When a view of politics becomes as narrow and myopic as this, it becomes necessary to recall that the government coalition's capacity to act and the Chancellor's moral authority will be judged not on the Hansen case but on such questions as:

1. How is the Cabinet going to react to the increasingly critical unemployment situation (1.3 million jobless)?

2. How resolutely and how boldly is the government going to tackle housing shortages in the big cities and the related problems of foreign workers and their children?

3. How is it going to react to the hopes and disappointments of the younger generation of whom only a few actually use violence but an increasing number show understanding and sympathy for it?

4. How is the Bonn government, which owed its election victory to a large extent to its detente and peace policies, going to react to the change of course in Washington ranging from foreign policy in general to North-South and Nato policy?

When is the Bonn government going to make a statement, for instance, on El Salvador?

5. Finally, what are the common political and moral bases of this coalition, assuming it ever had any? What are the medium-term contentual objectives of both parties?

How solid are the principles of SPD Ministers who find themselves nodding through arms sales such as submarines for Chile? What about their Social Democratic instincts?

And in the FDP would anyone who wrote the following have a chance today? "The Liberal Party must free itself from its class tammels and hence from capitalism. This is a precondition of its future." (Karl-Hermann Flach).

Not even the government press spokesmen have said that Helmut Schmidt, Hans-Dietrich Genscher and their colleagues Wischniewski, Huber, Ehrenberg, Lambdordorf, Hoppe, Baum and the rest have put up a good performance to date.

Bölling moves to East Berlin as intra-German ties mark time

Bonn's permanent representative in East Berlin, Klaus Bölling, told a conference on intra-German affairs recently that West Germany was willing to go on pursuing detente policies.

And indeed this was about the best that was to be expected in an icy political climate where the prevention of setbacks can be regarded as success.

West German room for manoeuvre has been severely restricted by East Berlin's decision to increase the compulsory sum to be exchanged by visitors to the GDR.

The Bonn government decided last October that there would be no further talks about loans, transport or energy projects until the GDR dropped or reduced these restrictions.

Relations between the East and the West generally are tense. What will relations between Washington and Moscow be like in future? Reagan's first political

There is clearly a mood of crestfallenness among the politicians, caused by a realisation of their weaknesses and fallibility. This is not an unsympathetic quality.

Consciousness of new tasks ahead is also increasing, as Schmidt's reference to the problems of youth in his recent Bundestag speech underline.

Nonetheless, everyday Bonn business concentrates on the management of crises: yesterday Garski and the Berlin crisis, today Brokdorf and the Hamburg crisis, tomorrow the Frankfurt airport extension and Hesse crises.

What is worrying here is that the solution of these crises is described as the most urgent task of Social and Free Democratic policies.

All it then takes is for a number of things to go wrong at the same time and moods blacken, crises loom.

True, the coalition has been through a lot since the government policy statement: from Reagan's electoral victory to the Berlin problem and the debate on nuclear modernisation and energy (in which the Hansen Case is only one element).

The coalition could hardly have been worse prepared, contentually and psychologically, for these crises. The SPD leadership, had, in the eyes of the rank and file, given way to the FDP on a number of key issues and so had its hands full trying to calm down dissatisfaction and criticism in the party.

In contrast, the FDP seemed intoxicated by its election success and its good showing in the coalition negotiations.

Its general secretary Günter Verheugen defended Chancellor Schmidt against SPD criticism, Foreign Minister Genscher called the SPD to order on arms modernisation, Economic Affairs Minister Lambdordorf put paid to top-level talks on co-determination.

All this would have been tough for any coalition to handle — and all the more so for this one, whose raison d'être had narrowed to providing a kind of al-

ternative to the Strauss/Wörner line in intra-German and foreign policy.

Even here, though, there are tell-tale signs of crumbling unity. The first reactions to the new tough line from Washington, especially Herr Genscher's willingness to support Mr Haig's policy of strength and America first, cast doubts on the permanence of SPD-FDP harmony in this area.

The same applies to the amazingly inflexible and cold government response to Günter Gaus's thought-provoking reflections on the German question and the "unity of the nation."

What is to happen if Washington actually implements its modernisation policies, extends its political influence or even the Nato sphere of operations?

A week ago in the Bundestag budget debate Helmut Schmidt had brave words for himself and for the SPD:

"I would have no reservations about the American phrase second to none. But I would have considerable reservations about the phrase 'superior to all others'."

This caused unrest on the CDU/CSU benches, according to the Bundestag's official record of proceedings.

Schmidt's words were directed more towards Washington than towards the Bundestag. But what are these considerable reservations, and are they shared by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher?

What happens when Washington puts on the heat? Is the day-to-day solidarity of the coalition strong enough to survive



differences of opinion between Bonn and Washington over Nato, where the room for manoeuvre is limited enough as it is?

The way the coalition partners have started their new term of office does not bode well here.

At least they have recognised the problem, and the FDP must take much of the credit for bringing the coalition's psychological winter crisis under control last week.

The FDP parliamentary party played an extremely important part here. They told their negotiators on co-determination to show more flexibility.

The FDP parliamentarians are also holding back their leader Foreign Minister Genscher on arms exports ("the Bonn government's hitherto restrictive attitude is to be maintained").

Also conspicuous are the FDP's non-intervention in the Hansen Case and the FDP leadership's refusal to make an issue of the resolution by 24 SPD MPs to transfer DM1bn from defence to overseas development.

The Vogel cabinet's good start in Berlin has also had a calming effect. Finally, the cordial relations between leading figures in the coalition have helped bring about detente in the Bonn alliance of Social and Free Democrats.

The warning sirens have been turned off, but the danger still lurks. Politically, the coalition has made no progress.

Doubts remain about its capacity to solve the real political problems of the moment, especially in world affairs but also in the economic sphere.

The SPD/FDP coalition, after its shaky start, is over the worst. But there are four tough years ahead.

Werner A. Peger

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 8 February 1981)

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■ LABOUR

Coalition compromise ends co-determination clash

Maybe what is made out to be the final compromise between the Social and Free Democrats in Bonn on worker directors in the coal and steel industries will indeed turn out to have been the last word on the subject.

Maybe it will hold good throughout the parliamentary procedure and see the planned legislation through to the statute book. Maybe, but it remains to be seen. One can only be sure once the Act has been gazetted.

The aim, after, is to reconcile the irreconcilable. The Social Democrats want to maintain for as long as possible equal representation for staff and shareholders on the supervisory boards of coal and steel companies.

The Free Democrats would like to see the special provisions for coal and steel scrapped as soon as possible and staff representation on the upper tier of the German two-tier board system brought into line with the 1976 Act.

By the terms of this Act directors nominated by shareholders and managements are in a slight but significant majority.

There can be no gainsaying that the Bonn coalition parties completely differ on this issue, both as a matter of conviction and by virtue of their respective interests.

And the signs are that the Free Democrats are in the better position. For them the six years in which the existing arrangements are to be retained in

companies that are no longer predominantly coal and steel in orientation are a fair period of grace.

The Social Democrats, on the other hand, are playing for time and hoping one day to arrive at a parliamentary majority in favour of retaining equal representation in the coal and steel industries.

But what shape is this majority to take? As long as the SPD and FDP are in joint harness in Bonn the Social Democrats will not be prepared to run the risk of making common cause with the working-class wing of the Christian Democrats.

The same would apply if the Christian Democrats were to govern in coalition with the FDP. The only permutation that could unite the advocates of equal representation would be a Grand Coalition of Social and Christian Democrats.

Yet a Grand Coalition is rightly seen as a tolerable option only in times of emergency. The slow demise of equal representation of capital and labour in coal and steel industry boardrooms hardly warrants being classified as an emergency.

The trade unions and their close associates the Social Democrats will have to come to terms with the fact that the trend is towards the provisions of the 1976 Act, which slightly favours the shareholders and management.

This they are bound to find in unpa-

latable truth. In the early 50s they felt the arrangements made for the coal and steel industries had started the ball rolling for a thorough democratisation of the economy.

This is definitely past history to some extent now. Besides, trade union leaders, elected democratically, had grown used to sending their nominees to represent the payroll in coal and steel boardrooms.

The unions are now only to be entitled to recommend nominees, the exact details being bitterly disputed.

Were it up to the FDP, the trade unions would have to submit two nominees for selection by the works council. The unions would then no longer be able to feel they held full responsibility for staff representation.

But this democratic selection procedure would be a far cry from how the management select their nominees. They are presented to the AGM, with no non-sense about alternative candidates!

Agreement between the Social and Free Democrats will put paid to co-determination as a bone of contention between the two for the time being.

The employers could make it easier for the unions to accept the facts of the matter by implementing the provisions of the 1976 Act fairly and in a spirit of cooperation.

The facts of the matter are that equal representation as practised in coal and steel industry boardrooms has proved fine whilst the industry was in the throes of structural reform.

But now that coal and steel are declining in importance in the overall economic context the special provisions for equal representation on supervisory boards must likewise decline in importance.

Gerhard Meynburg
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 February 1981)

Civil service privileges

Civil servants and the privileges they are said to enjoy are always fair game for criticism at this time of the year when wage agreements between unions and employers come up for renegotiation.

This year the debate is livelier than ever because there has never been such pressure on public-sector budgets to save money.

But the mere mention of a specific privilege is enough to trigger an entire chorus of counter-arguments.

Tell an official in the Bonn Finance Ministry that the Ministerial weighting costs the Federal budget DM98m a year and he is sure to reply that the weighting is part of his salary. Without it he would not have considered the work.

If the Finance Ministry were not to pay him an appropriate salary it would lose a highly-qualified civil servant to private enterprise.

He might, for instance, be an official capable of unravelling the tax subterfuges to which the oil multinationals resort. He is thus a man who saves the taxpaying public much more than he costs them.

At the same time there is also the case of the 36-year-old Bonn Oberamtsrat who is at ease in the swimming baths at 3.15pm every Friday even though he is not entitled to call it a day until 3.15pm.

What is more, outside Bonn he could not expect to reach the Oberamtsrat salary grade until shortly before retirement.

At the other end of the scale a Vorwärts reader refers to a Bundespost officer in Swabia who did the work of a Hauptsekretär for 14 years but was only paid the salary of a Hauptschaffner. The

reason was that his punctuation was not quite perfect.

He at least will welcome a move made by 30 university lecturers and 30 parliamentarians, senior civil servants all, for all civil servants earning more than DM50,000 per annum to forgo their salary increase this year.

The spokesman for this group, West Berlin sociologist Peter Grottel, says the saving could be used to underwrite 60,000 new civil service jobs, especially in health, welfare and education, labour, finance and environment agencies.

There is a clear shortage of manpower in all these sectors. It gives the lie to conservative claims that it is high time a damper were put on the public service.

Professor Grottel's proposals sent representatives of civil service associations scurrying nervously for counter-arguments.

Those affiliated to DGB, the trades union confederation, carry special weight, even though they agree with him in principle to the extent that they too advocate far-reaching changes.

But what use is it pointing out that the DM50,000 limit would hit a married man much harder than it would a single man? There is nothing easier than to suggest in return that the limit be made more flexible.

Professor Grottel's proposals have nothing to do with the wage talks; they are merely a fundamental idea. But they

are most unlikely to find support in the civil service regulations department of the Interior Ministry.

Deutscher Beamtenbund, the civil service association, is even less likely to endorse them; it is keen to uphold civil service privileges.

They are sure to find a ready hearing at the DGB, however, where consideration has been given to civil service privileges for some time.

In drafting Basic Law, the 1949 Bonn constitution, DGB chairman Hans Böckler was in favour of career civil servants running the country.

There were no other historic models by which to go, and he rejected proposals submitted by the Allies.

In 1978 the DGB rejected the idea of the career civil service in its present form and called for uniform regulations governing civil servants, salaries and wage-earning staff in the public service.

This is the only way in which civil servants, who draw separate pensions, might conceivably be included in the general social security network.

It is also the only way in which requirements might be introduced that could make civil service careers in any way comparable with jobs in private enterprise.

But let there be no illusions that this change might be brought about overnight. The Christian Democrats swear by Basic Law and the Free Democrats are reluctant to upset a large group of potential FDP voters.

An amendment of Basic Law can only be passed by a two-thirds majority in the Bundestag. How, in the circumstances, is this to come about, regardless whether or not it is long overdue?

(Vorwärts, 9 February 1981)

Jobless total nears 1 1/2m

For months the unemployment figures published by the Federal Office in Nuremberg have been progressively gloomier note.

The number of registered unemployed are increasing by the month. So many numbers of workers on short time of whom will be wondering by their company can manage it by going by resorting to this subterfuge and a temporary partial shutdown.

Last month there happened 2,000 more vacancies than in December, but that here nor there in view of the supply over demand for labour.

Once a month the head of the Office, Herr Süngel, faces the TV cameras to reassure us all that the figures are not as bad as they seem.

The Hamburg SPD also has to take account the reactions of Social Democrats in Bremen and Schleswig-Holstein.

This may well be true, but it comes an explanation that counts. With Land elections coming up in Hamburg, the SPD must also consider relations with the Free Democrats.

The nearer the jobless total approaches a million and a half, the nearer the time must come to take the tacks.

The trade unions have for some time been clamouring for active employment policies to be pursued by the state which they mean economic pumping to contain unemployment.

The Bundesbank is also to hand by reducing interest rates, are unusually high by German standards. As yet these demands are opposed by a majority in the Bonn coalition.

By industrial and commercial interests. Their main argument is that planned 4.3-per-cent increase in spending is already anti-cyclical.

much as no more than a nominal 10 per-cent increase in GNP is expected. They further argue that step expenditure still further would be much more difficult to contain.

These views are reflected in the government's annual economic policy. Mention is made, as indeed it is, of a commercial and industrial investment boom, of the economy's impulse of investment and renewal.

Besides, booster programmes tend to distort structural changes. Employment is often a pointer to structural change, which may be delayed by pump-priming but will later appear with even greater impetus.

There is in any case a tendency to misinterpret structural unemployment as cyclical unemployment. Economic measures are, when all is said and done, politically more attractive than structural policy.

They are more likely to come with short-term successes and do not tend to burden anyone with the burden of adjustment.

In the Bundestag budget debates, housing and power station construction, were repeatedly referred to as potential wellsprings to get the economy back on the move.

Both are subject to legal and political restraints that hold a backlog of demands in check. But how is this demand to be forced into economic motive?

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TALKING POINTS

Hamburg SPD votes against nuclear power

special conference of Hamburg Social Democrats has voted to pull out of the Brokdorf nuclear power station project.

and matters are not really as clear-cut as this rejection would suggest. The means of interest and power is more subtle and complex.

The key question is should the Hamburg SPD bow to the wishes of Chancellor Schmidt, who favours the building of Brokdorf?

Another is internal rivalry within the Hamburg SPD, and personal hostility between Mayor Hans-Ulrich Kloss.

The Hamburg SPD also has to take account the reactions of Social Democrats in Bremen and Schleswig-Holstein.

With Land elections coming up in Hamburg, the SPD must also consider relations with the Free Democrats.

The Hamburg FDP is sitting on the fence. Quite apart from political considerations, there is the crucial issue of where electricity supplies for Hamburg in particular.

Continued from page 4

as the main political parties in Hamburg are totally at odds on the issues concerned?

An energy policy in particular the SPD by virtue of its Hamburg region's opposition to Brokdorf nuclear power station, has demonstrated its virtual inability to outline perspectives.

Unemployment has not yet given rise to feelings of catastrophe, as in Britain, where 10 per cent are now jobless. True, West Germany cuts a fine figure in international comparisons.

It would be equally irresponsible to lay the blame at the door of unions and employers as they line up for the annual round of wage talks. They are by no means solely to blame for the economic slump.

There are no sure-fire solutions to unemployment, but it is obvious that a greater degree of consensus amongst those who co-determine the labour market cannot but be beneficial.

Rainer Diermann

(Nordwest Zeitung, 4 February 1981)

High time to restore law and order

How defenceless is the state, how defenceless are the citizens, including those demonstrating peacefully, against these criminal men of violence?

Public indignation after the bloody events during the anti-Brokdorf demonstration in Hamburg is widespread.

But the politicians involved all agree that the state has no choice but to use legal violence to counter illegal violence.

Where they disagree is on what methods the state should use. Should people be allowed to wear masks, and helmets at demonstrations? This ques-



Mayor Kloss (right), here seen with his wife Elke, is jubilant at the outcome of the party conference (Photo: José L. Camejo)

truly dependent on atomic energy. Meanwhile, waste heat goes unused and begging.

If we were to take the residual energy theory really seriously, all plausible savings and alternative supply sources would have to be studied before building an atomic power station.

Energy-saving policies require cooperation over the whole national electricity grid. The Commission of Enquiry report on "The Future of Atomic Energy Policy" lists 162 possible ways of saving energy.

But as long as no one seriously attempts to put these proposals into practice, the residual energy theory will remain a hypothesis.

The Hamburg decision involves another aspect. Major urban population centres are the best places for combining large-scale use of process heat with the use of smaller power stations.

But budget limits alone mean that Hamburg cannot afford this process heat and small power station combination and a nuclear power station.

At the moment it is impossible to say whether Hamburg will use the combination. Perhaps there will be controversy about where to build a modern coal-fired power station.

One thing, however, is clear: if Hamburg now went ahead with Brokdorf, it would be ruling out any real alternative in the long term.

This would bring a credibility problem and hit the theory of moderate use of atomic energy as a "stopgap" far harder than a simple Hamburg "yes" to Brokdorf would have done.

Certainly, Hamburg has already invested a lot of money in Brokdorf. The

Hamburg SPD vote came about it in a complex and roundabout way. Many of the no votes probably came from absolute opponents of atomic energy.

But despite the loss of money and of face in some quarters the Hamburg vote should also be seen as an opportunity to pursue pragmatic energy policies.

After all that has happened, and because of the prestige value of the whole project, this may be very difficult. But it is never too late to try. Robert Leicht

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 February 1981)

Gaus on Germany

Bismarck's German Reich, set up after the 1870 Franco-Prussian War, only lasted until 1938, not even 70 years. Then it became the Greater German Reich, which crumbled in 1945.

Now, four long decades later, does the German nation still exist? Günter Gaus, the man asking these questions, spent six years pondering over them as Bonn's permanent representative in East Berlin.

As Bonn's man in East Berlin, he found the East German leadership determined to underline the difference between the two German states.

He found the West often inclined to discuss the issue in high-flown and sentimental terms. But often, and worse, he also found indifference to the question.

He has now said there should be less talk about the German nation. What he is calling for here is more truthfulness.

Nonetheless, we ought not to take his advice. Not only for legal reasons or because the constitution talks of German unity but because there is simply no better word than nation for it.

The unity of the German nation did not begin in 1870. And it did not end in 1945. Gaus himself was struck by this lasting historical and cultural identity on his travels through East Germany.

Only in East Germany did he discover that the Elbe is not the German border. And he wishes more West Germans would realise that East Germany is more than a grey expanse ruled by the Socialist Unity Party.

There is a core of truth in Gaus's criticisms. But the restriction on travel between the two countries and the prohibitively high compulsory exchange rate for visitors to East Germany prevent the majority of West Germans from finding out about their fellow-Germans in the East.

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, 31 January 1981)

Further, greater political acumen would neither harm the citizens' action committees nor detract from their idealistic goals.

Hans Wolff

(Nordwest Zeitung, 4 February 1981)

■ ECONOMIC TRENDS

Is tightfisted response to zero growth shortsighted and self-defeating?

West Germans were once described as world economic champions. If this description ever was accurate, it stopped being so two years ago, when the second oil price explosion began tarnishing the brilliance of the Deutschmark.

There are huge gaps in the current account, and the domestic imbalance, characterised by huge public spending, is even more alarming.

People have suddenly realised we are living beyond our means, have to tighten our belts and cut spending, the sooner the better.

If there were any doubts at all about the need for this change of attitude, they were swept brutally aside by the government at the end of January.

Bonn goes firm on forecast of GNP decline

On 28 January the Bonn Cabinet forecast zero growth in the German economy this year. Like all the leading economic research institutes, it was expecting a drop in gross national product.

The Social and Free Democratic coalition also made it clear in the budget debate that it aims to pursue policies in line with this realisation.

The way ahead is now clear in all fields of economic policy. The Bundesbank is already applying the money supply brake and employers are obviously determined to get tough in the forthcoming round of pay negotiations.

There is no doubt that we have to face comparatively lean years in the next



decade. Increases in affluence such as have regularly been achieved over the past 30 years are very unlikely to recur in the 80s. There are obstacles to growth everywhere one looks.

Many markets are already almost saturated, for example motors and household equipment. Many industries are also facing fierce competition on world markets because low-wage countries are now producing technological goods.

Then there are the huge price rises for energy and many raw materials which make entire production techniques unprofitable and require huge capital investment over many years.

Finally, and most importantly, we will have to share these more modest increases in gross national product with more and more people in the world.

The oil price rise, the EEC budget and increasing arms expenditure are all not internal redistributions of income; they deprive us of purchasing power, which we only get back indirectly.

So far, so good. We will have to get used to stop expecting greater affluence from year to year such as we have enjoyed up to now.

The question remains, though: Are all these cuts in all fields of economic policy really the most likely method of achieving long-term success?

The problems we face today are the result of long-term developments. The second oil price explosion was not a bolt

out of the blue; there had been a similar one five years previously.

Thanks to our economic strength, we merely managed to ward off the effects for longer than most other industrial countries.

The government in Bonn, the Bundesbank in Frankfurt and leading employers up and down the country are all about to overload the economic system — and the public — with cuts.

In the name of structural change important supports are being removed from the economy. This will only hamper structural change, because the cuts are far too general and do not take sufficient account of real economic performance in the different sectors.

This year the Bonn government aims to keep its budget deficit to the same level as last year to limit the increase in expenditure to only four per cent. In fact, this thrift merely fuels recession.

If the Bundesbank cuts the money supply even tighter than last year, it will keep interest at record levels and deter people from making necessary investments.

If employers stick to their guns and insist on only paying 2.5 per cent more wages, not even offsetting inflation, they will be depriving themselves of demand for their goods.

The shortsightedness of this new economic policy puts social peace at risk.

We Germans, it seems, are reacting to these new and painful experiences like past masters who have had it so good for so long they can no longer cope with setbacks.

Fritz Kral

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 January 1981)

Deutschmark looks devaluation candidate this year

It should have made the money sidelined in minimum reserves available to the banks — but it should have charged more for it.

This is all the more regrettable as the position of our major competitors has now improved markedly. The USA is now heading for a payments surplus, so it is no wonder the dollar is gaining.

As for inflation, Germany's position is not as good as many would have us believe. Britain has forced inflation down to a mere 8 per cent and is expecting a further reduction.

If inflation here were to hit 6 per cent, we would not be much better off than the UK. The Japanese have inflation down to 7.5 per cent and have set themselves a target of 5 per cent.

In analysing the economic situation, we have to take the background into account, and politicians still do not seem to realise where the real problem lies.

Many economists argue that West Germany has lost much of its competitiveness in recent years. Productivity is not rising at previous levels and consumption, particularly government spending, has boomed at the expense of investment.

Not enough has been done to reduce



dependence on crude oil, and public spending has to be radically reduced.

The role of the European Monetary System in the process of Deutschmark devaluation is not clear. Out-and-out supporters of the EMS are rare.

They say the EMS is primarily a political instrument and the Bundesbank is making the best of things.

They argue that the real test for the system will only come when one currency, such as the German mark again, becomes too strong.

At the moment, the EMS is bracing further devaluation of the DM. This has advantages and disadvantages.

There has been no need for any major intervention in the EMS for some time now, though last year a total of 4.2bn DM was spent on interventions to correct the course of the French franc against the Deutschmark and vice-versa.

Experts now say there would be no very spectacular difference if the mark and the franc were now allowed to float freely against one another.

High time to get moving

Intelligent pragmatist at Siemens helm

Bonn's gloomy economic forecasts for the coming months are unlikely to alarm the majority of West Germans. Most have already achieved a level of affluence and it will not be too hard if this affluence does not increase further in the short term.

This general satisfaction, complete scepticism about gloomy predictions tends to make people shrug off predicted unemployment figures.

They are wrong. Forecasts say the national unemployment average is around 1.1 million this year. Many face the prospect of losing their jobs.

Others may find another job but experience of being out of work have confronted them with economic difficulties for the first time.

The time in which the state stepped back and hope for industry to pull economy out of the slump is long over. Even though the range of measures state can take is small, pressure on them is growing.

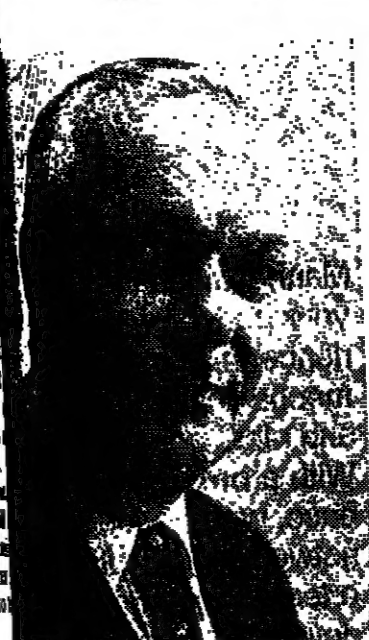
There can be no justification for lion-mark handouts in the vague hope that so much money is bound to do some effect.

The government must stick to its course of cutting superfluous subsidies and trimming down public services.

What the state can do is help in long-term improvement of the economy by saving oil, the development of energy technologies and the industrial application of technological research.

Such a programme would not be miracles. But it could help to move economy moving. Higher revenue taxes on petrol and diesel oil would be well employed on measures to cut consumption.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 January 1981)



Karlheinz Kaske (Photo: Siemens)

Karlheinz Kaske, the new man at the helm of Siemens, the Munich electrical engineering company, pricked up ears when his secretary at the Siemens subsidiary in Venezuela said Peter Siemens had called.

He said you should go and see him as you are back in Germany," she said at the end of June 1979.

In July, immediately after the meeting of the Siemens supervisory board, it was official.

Kaske, for the previous two years chairman of the board from 1 January 1980.

He made him next in line to Siemens managing director Bernhard Plettner. Now, a good year later, Kaske is set up to take over the number one

Veba and motor manufacturers Volkswagen. They are No. 22 in world ratings. With 344,000 employees at home and abroad, Siemens are by far the biggest private employer in West Germany.

Till recently almost completely unknown to the general public, Karlheinz Kaske is now one of the big bosses of German industry.

The change had been planned for some time and passed off smoothly and without speculation. Few other companies could compete with Siemens in this respect.

It was natural, for instance that the chairman's job at Siemens would go to someone from within the firm.

Plettner made it clear some time ago that the company would be run by a technocrat — though "technocrats only" are not to be found at this level.

It was also clear that only a departmental director would be considered. Kaske's age was right, too. His appointment nonetheless came as a surprise to the general public.

Kaske's curriculum vitae is as follows. He studied physics at Aachen University, gaining his PhD at the age of 22.

This was only possible because he had passed his Abitur examination at the age of 16 and began university in Danzig in the last year of the war.

The first step in Kaske's Siemens career was a post in the development department of the Werner Measurement Technology Co. in Karlsruhe.

His initial salary was a meagre DM250, plus a special increment of

Siemens may buy major holding in hard-hit Grundig

Rumours have been flying around for over a year now that Siemens, West Germany's biggest electrical company, was planning to take over Grundig.

When the rumour was first put about, Max Grundig made a number of disparaging noises. He has now, it seems, changed his tune.

The unofficial word within Grundig is that they would "welcome" cooperation with Siemens. Talks have already started.

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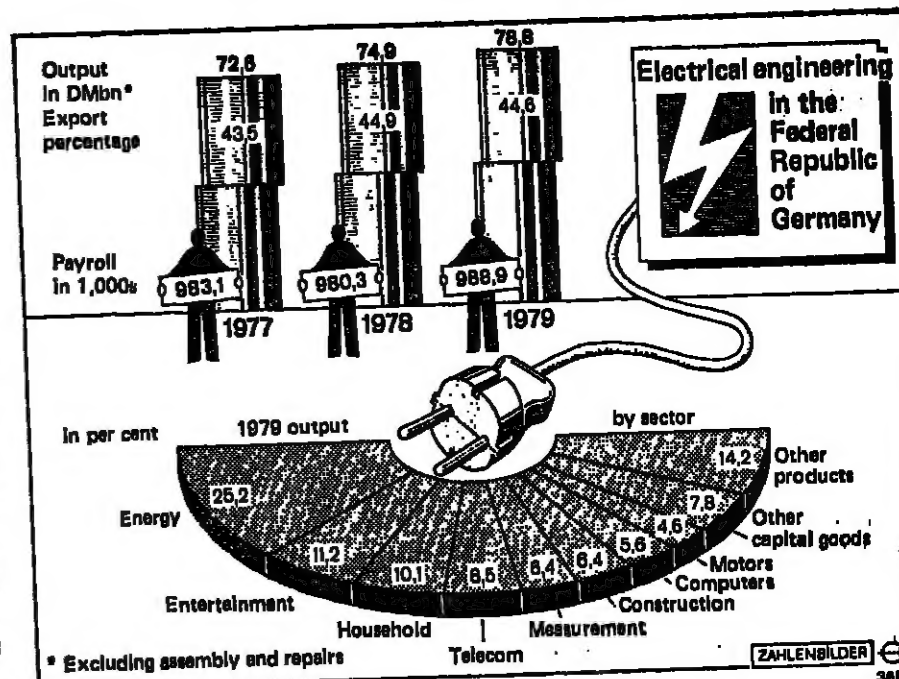
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(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 January 1981)



DM25 for his exceptional academic qualifications.

Three years later, he left to take up a post in the Aachen district mining association, also teaching at the School of Mining.

Kaske freely admits today that his seven years in Aachen did him good. However, he soon realised that his prospects in the industry were limited.

It was fortunate that just around this time he had a phone call from Siemens asking him if he would be interested in coming back to them.

He said yes. After that, he climbed the career ladder rapidly. He was soon thoroughly familiar with house style. In 1967 Siemens sent him as an advisor to Fuji Electric in Tokyo.

When he returned from the Far East, he became director of the planning department, which at that time was reorganising Siemens & Halske (low voltage current) and Siemens-Schuckert (heavy currents).

By the time he had switched from the measurement technology department of Siemens & Halske to energy technology in what had formerly been Siemens Schuckert, the international competitiveness of the company's energy technology had increased considerably.

Taking me through his career, he said there were very few colleagues at Siemens who had been transferred from one department to another within the company as often as he.

Over the years he had gained a thorough knowledge of development, consultancy, planning, sales and production — both at home and abroad.

He regretted the tendency in industrial nations for more and more of the gross national product to be ploughed into the administrative and service sectors, where productivity was far lower than in industry.

He said there would have to be far more investment in industry, not to rationalise office jobs out of existence but to create them.

Kaske said he was "optimistic enough to believe that in the long or the short term people would realise that atomic energy is essential, even in West Germany."

He found the amount of fossil energy sources "destroyed" to produce heat and energy incredible.

He said he objected as a physicist to this plundering of the world's resources, citing the baleful example of the Spaniards, who cut down their woods to build the Armada.

Are there weak spots in the company's make-up, will it have to bring in outsiders to improve its know-how?

"We lead in many areas. But no company with our immense range of products can keep its nose ahead in all sectors — no company in the world can afford this."

Ever since he was nominated the man most likely to succeed Plettner, Kaske has had to put up with being pigeon-holed.

Some said he did not come across as the typical dynamic manager type. Others said he was no revolutionary leader figure and was not electrifying.

It is in the nature of things that he must first acquire a public profile as boss of Siemens. His two predecessors, Gerd Tacke, a brilliant speaker, and Bernhard Plettner, already a well known name when he took up the post, had a far easier time of it.

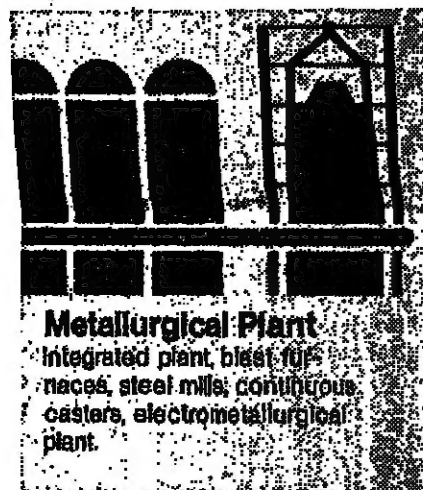
But Kaske is an intelligent pragmatist and he can take his time finding his own leadership style. He will not need any high-falutin management theories to do so.

Will he be less tough than Plettner? Continued on page 8.

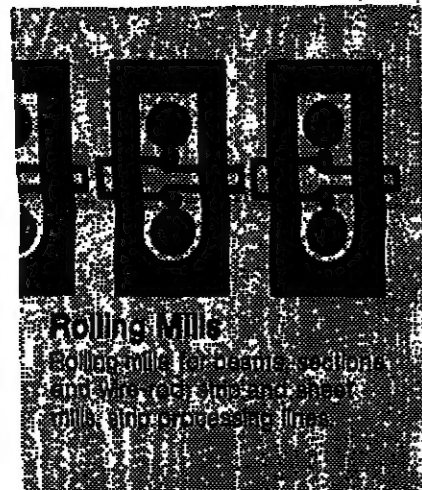
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 January 1981)

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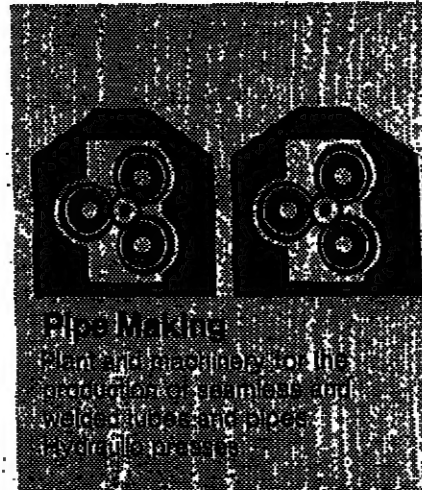
Machinery, Plants and Systems



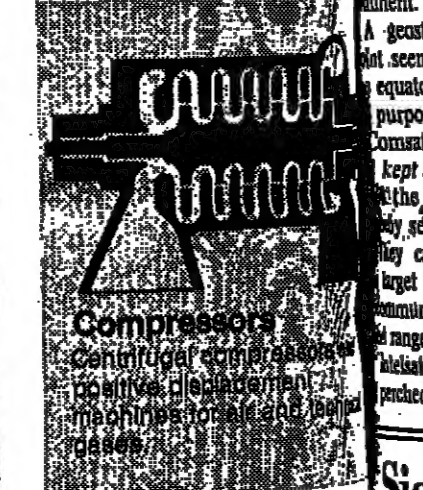
Metallurgical Plant
Integrated plant, blast furnaces, steel mills, continuous casters, electrometallurgical plant.



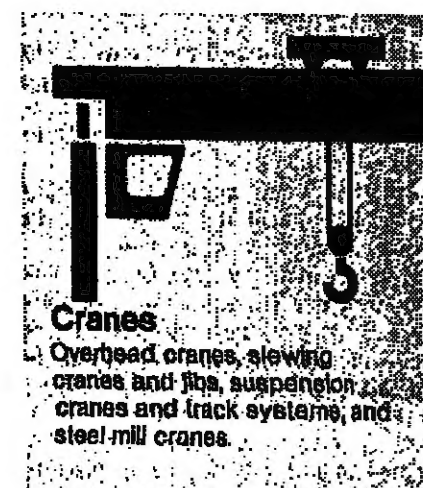
Rolling Mills
Rolling mills for beams, sections and other steel products, hot and cold.



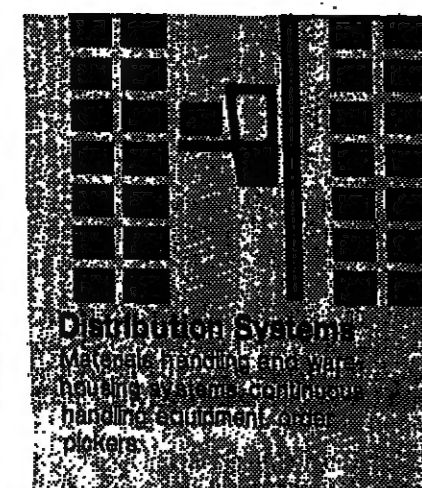
Pipe Making
Plant and machinery for the production of seamless and welded pipes and tubes.



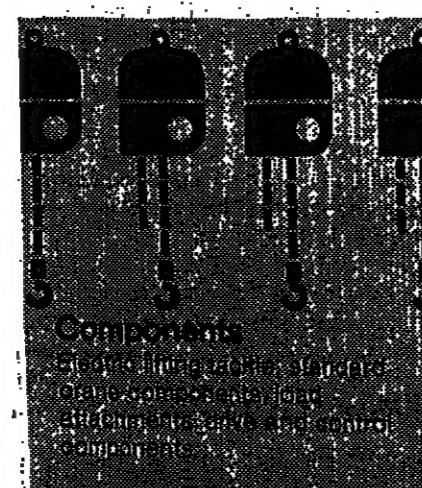
Compressors
Centrifugal compressors for the production of compressed air, nitrogen, oxygen and other gases.



Cranes
Overhead cranes, slewing cranes and jibs, suspension cranes and track systems, and steel mill cranes.



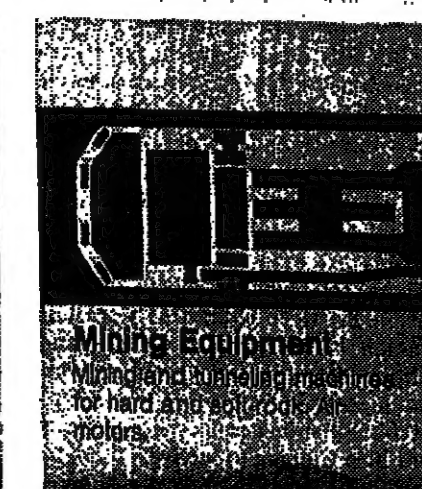
Distribution System
Material handling and warehousing systems, continuous handling equipment, roller conveyors.



Component
Machine for the production of components for the automotive industry, machine tools, and other components.



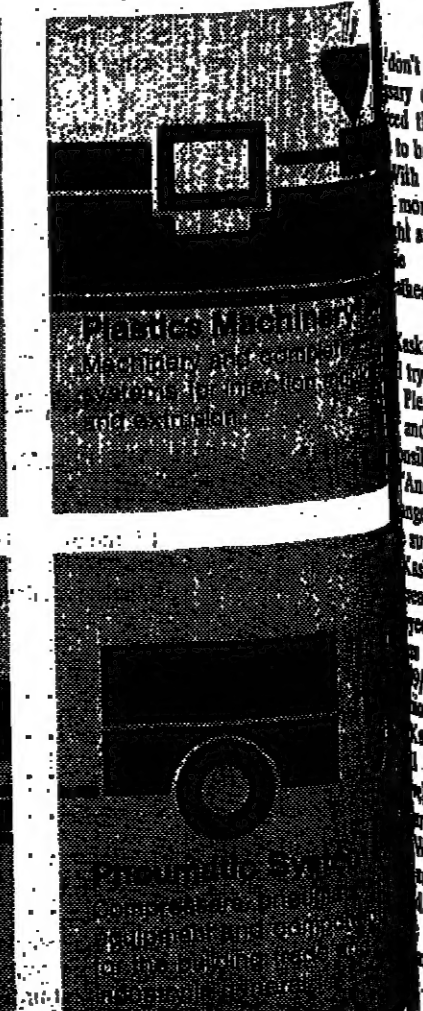
Bulk Handling
Bucket wheel excavators, reclaimers and belt conveyor systems, container handling systems.



Mining Equipment
Mining machines, conveyor systems for hard and soft rock, and other mining equipment.



Construction Equipment
Construction machines, piling rigs, and other construction equipment.



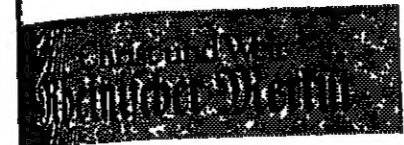
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TELECOM

Munich aerospace company helps to develop and build Intelsat V



The latest Intelsat V communications satellite launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, last December opened up new telecom markets.

Intelsat V, operated by the Intelsat International comsat corporation, can relay 12,000 two-way telephone calls and two colour TV programmes simultaneously from one continent to another.

Back in 1962 the first comsat, Telstar, carried a mere 60 telephone links. Satellite communications have since gone on strength to strength.

Since the early 60s the demand for intercontinental telecommunications has increased so swiftly that satellites have proved the only solution.

Telecom links no longer consisted of cables laid on the seabed and on land, they were relayed via outer space, where comsats receive signals, sort them and relay them to the next continent.

A geostationary orbit at a vantage point seemingly perched 36,000km over equator is particularly well suited to purpose.

Comsats are manoeuvred into position kept at a speed that enables them to stay in the equator in exactly 24 hours, appearing to stay put in the sky.

They can thus be kept permanently target by ground stations relaying telecommunications within their transmission range.

Intelsat V's geostationary orbit keeps it perched in mid-Atlantic, just right for Europe.

Intelsat V differs substantially in design from its predecessors, Intelsat I to IV. They were all cylindrical and stabilised by virtue of their rotation.

Intelsat V is stabilised on three axes, much more satisfactorily than on a single, vertical axis. For its entire lifespan its individual antennas can be beamed exactly at major ground stations.

MBB gained experience with three-axis positioning on the Franco-German Symphonie comsat project. Symphonie was put into orbit by US launcher rockets in 1974-75.

The Symphonie satellites are still in position in their geostationary orbits and still in full working order. They were the first to use three-axis stabilisation. They were followed by the OTS satellites, which likewise made a name for themselves by outstanding radio performance. Satellites are kept in position by small gas jets. As soon as a change in position is noted the jets are activated and the position is righted by a short, weak push in the opposite direction.

A sensor system that homes in on the earth's horizon spots any departure or deviation from position. It activates the jets whenever the infra-red sensors detect a change in brightness.

Three-axis stabilisation has the further advantage of enabling the satellite to be fitted out with gigantic solar paddles always facing the Sun.

They generate more power than the solar cells of previous Intelsat systems, which were attached to the outer walls of the satellite cylinders, thus always being in the dark on one side.

Intelsat IV had to make do with 540 watts, whereas Intelsat V has 1,700 watts at the ready, and three times more electric power is a tremendous advantage.

Intelsat V's solar generator consists of two three-panel wings that are not outstretched until the satellite is safely in orbit.

They are then 7.1 metres (23ft 4in) long, and each wing, or paddle, boasts 17,600 AEG solar cells.

The main transmission antenna is 2.4 metres (7ft 10in) in diameter. There are

the transatlantic sector, which is the busiest telecom route in the world.

A further five or six Intelsat Vs will be located elsewhere over the equator, mainly over the ocean to serve as satellite links between continents.

Technological progress is best indicated by comparison with Intelsat IV, its predecessor.

Intelsat V weighs 975kg, or only a few pounds more than Intelsat IV, but handling capacity has been almost doubled from 6,200 to 12,000 phone calls.

One of the main reasons for this great leap forward is sure to have been the decision by Ford Aerospace, the US general contractors, to internationalise the project and utilise European know-how.

Components were commissioned from European companies whenever they were not available in the perfection required from US manufacturers.

Ford Aerospace handled 75 per cent of development work but seven firms in all were associated with the Intelsat V project. The others were British, French, German and Italian.

Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, the Munich aerospace company, handled 10 per cent of the contract, the lion's share of Europe's 25 per cent.

MBB have been responsible for the two large solar cell paddles and the complex positioning system, which is largely responsible for the new satellite's performance.

It was the first time the Americans had ever commissioned the development of such a major feature of a satellite system from a non-American company.

MBB can pride themselves on this accolade.

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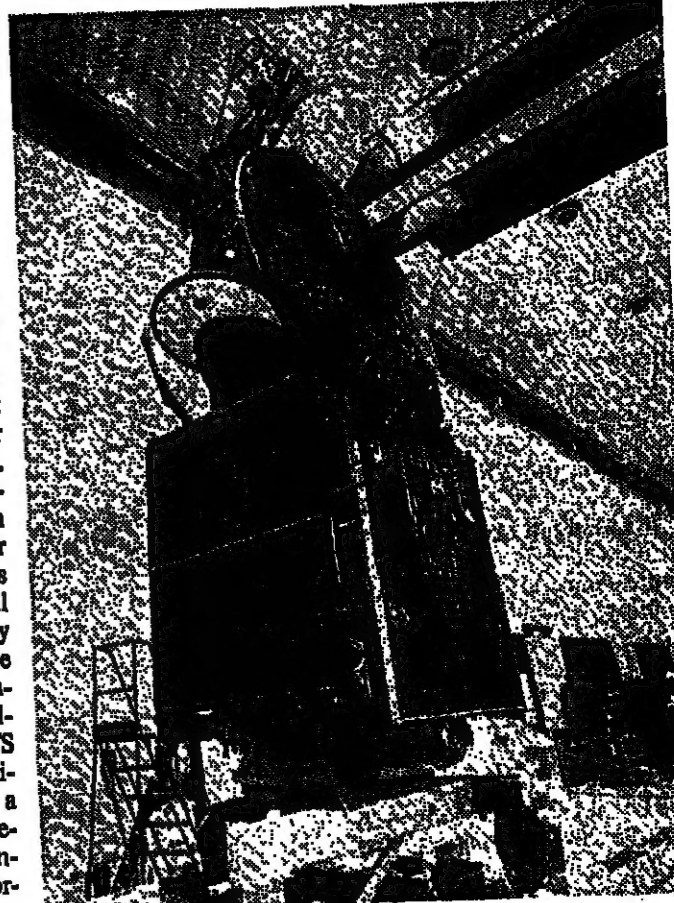
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Intelsat V

a further three smaller horn-shaped and three dish antennas for receiving and transmitting on various frequencies.

There are currently about 150 ground stations in comsat use in the 102 Intelsat member-countries.

Experience has shown that demand for telephone and other communications in a country doubles every four to five years. This meant that the Intelsat V generation had to be designed with growth in mind.

Higher capacity cuts cost per line across the Atlantic

The new satellites will be in use for seven years, so they will need to incorporate sufficient capacity to meet demand seven years hence.

Last year about 26,300 telephone links between Europe and North America were required. Between Asia and America 6,100 channels were needed on average, between Asia and Europe about 9,500 lines.

Overall average demand was thus 41,900, which can be met with ease by four Intelsats, with two straddling the Atlantic. These two will have their work cut out, but older satellites are still in operation, so capacity is available.

The first seven Intelsat Vs were an order worth \$235m. Each launching by Atlas Centaur rocket costs \$76m.

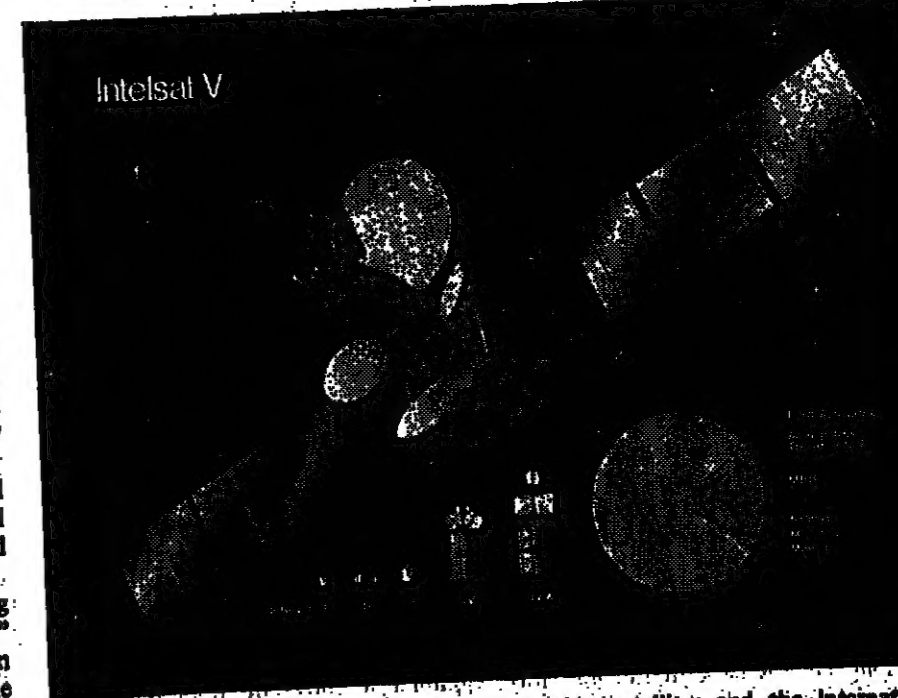
To be more exact, the rocket and the launching cost \$42m. The satellite itself accounts for the remainder.

It is interesting to note what a telephone link used to cost per year and what it costs now. In 1965, for instance, an open line across the Atlantic cost \$32,000 per annum.

By 1970 the cost had been cut to \$20,000, falling to \$8,500 in 1975. Last year it was a mere \$5,000, and Intelsat V will probably result in further price cuts.

This should boost demand for satellite telephone links, so the development of further comsats with even higher capacity would seem to be a foregone conclusion.

Wolfgang Engelhardt, (Frankfurter Merkur/Christ und Welt, 16 January 1981)



Intelsat V

The latest generation of Intelsat communication satellites and the international consortium that developed and manufactured them. (Photos: Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm)

■ THE ARTS

Birth bicentenary of Romantic writer Adalbert von Chamisso

Romantic poet Adalbert von Chamisso, 1781-1838, was explaining to friends how he had lost all his personal effects on one of his travels.

"My hat had gone, my gloves had disappeared; I couldn't even find my portmanteau," he complained. It really is the sort of thing that can ruin any holiday.

It was also a ready opportunity for his friend and fellow-poet Friedrich de la Motte Fouqué, 1777-1843, to add insult to injury and poke fun at him.

"You didn't happen to lose your shadow as well, did you?" he asked. He hadn't, of course, but the two friends stopped to think what a calamity losing one's shadow could well prove to be.

Some time later, in 1813, Chamisso was bored and at a loose end in Cünersdorf, Saxony. Out there in the country he put pen to paper, visualising what might happen if one were to lose one's shadow.

The result was his lasting claim to fame, *The Strange Story of Peter Schlemihl*, a tale that novelist Thomas Mann 100 years later still felt rated the epithet immortal.

By then the absent-minded poet could already look back on an unusual personal story, that of a child of the French Revolution.

He was born on 30 January 1781 at his father's chateau, Boncourt, in Champagne, and christened Louis Charles Adelaide de Chamisso de Boncourt.

But the family were forced to emigrate in 1790. The French Revolution sent them, father, mother and six children, first to Belgium, then to Germany.

Five years after leaving France they finally settled in Berlin, where Adalbert first served as a page to the Queen of Prussia.

For financial reasons, not for reasons of conviction, he then decided on a military career. He felt ill at ease as a Prussian soldier, especially when he was obliged to fight his fellow-countrymen when Napoleon invaded Prussia.

In 1806 the Prussian forces were crushingly defeated at Jena and Auerstedt. That was the end of military service as far as he was concerned. He rejoined the family, who had long since returned to France.

But he did not stay for long, feeling out of place in Napoleonic France too. He commuted between France and Germany, Paris and Berlin, until finally deciding:

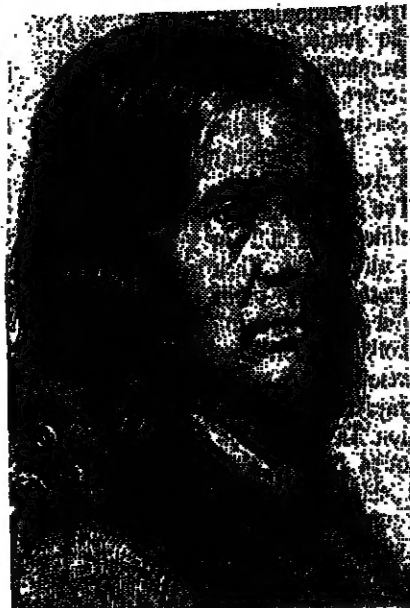
"This is the place for me to live and love, keeping up my quiet German ways. Nowhere was I more overwhelmingly German than in Paris."

The place was Berlin, where in 1812 he enrolled at university as a student of medicine and botany.

When the wars of liberation, as the 1813 German campaign against Napoleon is known in German, began he ruled himself out for active service on either side.

"The age had no sword for me," he wrote, "but it certainly is exhausting having to remain an inactive onlooker when the call to arms is such a popular one."

So he withdrew to the country, and as the shadowless Peter Schlemihl in his seven-league boots began to take shape



Adalbert von Chamisso
(Photo: Historia)

his author was to be seen in a most unusual garb.

A contemporary described the poet-naturalist on his walks through fields and woodland as follows:

He is to be seen wearing the "full regalia of a South Sea chief, a black velvet cap or scarf on his head of curly hair, a large green capsule hanging from a leather strap, a short-stemmed pipe in the corner of his mouth, a plain tobacco pouch hanging somewhere or other and a bite to eat protruding from the side pockets of his jacket."

Chamisso may still have counted in French but he had long taken to writing poetry in German. Back in 1804-6 he had coedited the *Grüner Musenalmanach*.

He knew Ludwig Uhland, Rahel Levin Varnhagen and Fouqué and was very keen on German fairytales, even writing fairytales of his own such as the Tale of the Gigantic Toy.

Peter Schlemihl's adventures he likewise described as an artificial fairytale,

and a number of common fairytale motifs recur in the narrative.

They include a lucky bag that is never empty, a cap that makes the wearer invisible and, of course, the seven-league boots.

But fairytale features are accompanied by descriptions of a world realistically outlined, so Chamisso's evaluation of his famous story is not entirely accurate.

He nonetheless has strong leanings towards the fairytale, which would seem to bear out his being rated a Romantic poet, but his hero's quest is not for the elusive *blaue Blume*, or blue flower, that plays such a symbolic role in Romantic writings.

Schlemihl's quest is for a place in bourgeois society. He does not suffer on account of his bourgeois existence but on account of his lack of it. He suffers from rejection because he has no shadow.

Chamisso thus parts company with the Romantic movement, giving expression instead to a new sense of bourgeois awareness. He is in this respect a forerunner of Realism.

His contemporaries esteemed him mainly as a poet. He wrote many ballads and poems. A constant feature is the coexistence in them of the sweet and sentimental on the one hand and the gruesome and scary on the other.

Well-meaning critics attributed his tendency towards criminal gloom to his personal friendship with a criminologist.

His poetic works certainly contain a fair share of blood and thunder, murder, torture and suffering.

In *Don Juanito Marques Verdugo de los Leganes* a Spanish grandee massacres his entire family, while in *Vergeltung* (Retaliation), a "truly painful anecdote," according to Thomas Mann, a hangman literally brands the nobleman who seduces his daughter.

Yet alongside tales of horror reminiscent of Edgar Allan Poe, Chamisso

also wrote a great many love poems such as:

*Ich wollte, wie gerne, dich herzu,
Dich wiegen in meinem Arm,
Dich drücken in meinem Herz,
Dich hegen so traut und warm.
(How glad I should be to hold you, to hold you in my arms, to hold you to my heart, and care for you dearly).*

Such patent lovesickness in a poet laid him wide open to allegations of banality. His family poems, *The Mother*, *The Orphan*, *Mother and Child* are likewise dismissed as an example of bourgeois sentimentality.

But Chamisso was not only a poet, he was also a scientist. From 1815 he travelled on board the *Runkel* in the footsteps of Captain Cook.

Schlemihl author turns scientist

The aim of the expedition was to sail through and chart the Bering Strait between America and Asia. He published his findings in *Reise um die Welt* (Journey Round the World) in 1820, two years before his death.

By this time he had long put behind him the problematic doll shadow. Thomas Mann saw it. He had set down, become a married man and, ther, an academic, and was returned master.

Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia appointed him to the staff of the Botanical Gardens and in 1833 he made a member of the Academy of Sciences.

He was a member of a Club German dining club and since 1827 coedited, with Schwab and Gmelin, *Deutscher Musenalmanach*.

When he died on 21 August 1838, restless commuter between Berlin and Paris had long become a respected man poet.

But, again to quote Thomas Mann, "only eternal Bohémiens find it boring; one either is ruined by being interesting or goes on to become a poet."

Petra Plun

(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 29 January 1981)

Soviet dissident Lev Kopelev stripped of citizenship

Soviet writer Lev Kopelev, a specialist in Germanic studies who was visiting the Federal Republic of Germany, has been stripped of his citizenship by the Soviet authorities.

The ukase was dated 12 January but has yet to be published in the Supreme Soviet's official gazette. It means exile.

Kopelev and his wife arrived in Germany on 12 November, having been issued with a twelve-month exit permit after several vain attempts.

He was invited by Cologne Nobel laureate Heinrich Böll, the novelist, and had intended to return to his home in Moscow when the year was up.

In 1945, as a Red Army major, he was arrested for alleged bourgeois humanitarian propaganda of sympathy with the enemy. He spent 10 years in Soviet prisons and labour camps.

In 1956 he was rehabilitated but before long he was back in trouble with the Soviet regime, being expelled first from the Communist Party, then from

the Soviet Writers' Association, as he had been before.

His literary reputation in West Germany is based on his books *Aufbewahren für alle Zeit* (To Be Kept For All Time) and *Und schuf mir einen Götzen* (And Made Myself a Brazen Image).

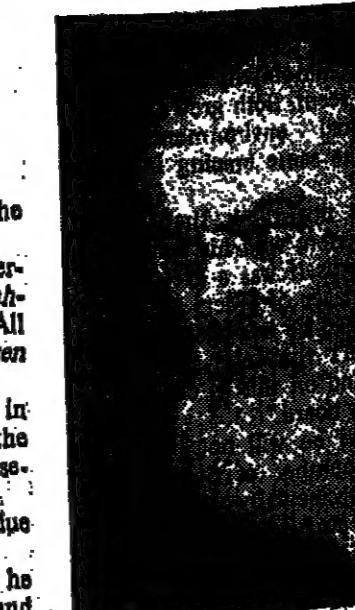
In the first he describes his life in prison and what happened during the Soviet invasion of East Prussia. In the second he tells the story of his youth.

A third volume of his memoirs is due for publication shortly.

As a specialist in Germanic studies he has dealt mainly with Goethe and Brecht. Last year he was awarded the German Academy of Language and Literature's Friedrich Gundolf Prize for Germanic studies abroad.

His wife Raisa Orlova is best known as a translator of American literature. She too was expelled last year from the Communist Party and from the Soviet Writers' Association.

Vassili Aksionov, who also arrived in



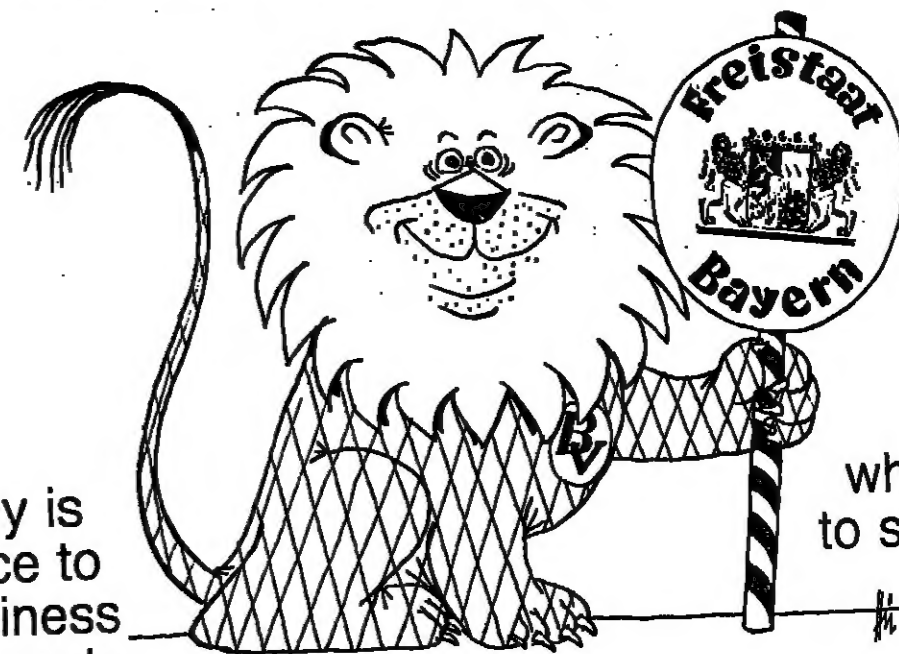
Lev Kopelev

West Germany on a visit last November has also been stripped of Soviet citizenship.

As far as is known the ruling is not in his case, apply to his wife's children, who accompanied him.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 29 January 1981)

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EDUCATION

Düsseldorf survey takes a closer look at the 'anti-authoritarian' kindergarten

The "Kinderladen" movement which started in the late sixties and early seventies shook up the German nursery school scene and changed previously hallowed values.

It advocates that children should be given more scope to develop without so much adult guidance.

The influence of the movement soon made itself felt even in the more traditional kindergartens.

Professor Horst Nickel of Düsseldorf University has summed up the effects of this trend in his recently published Final Report on Institutional Pre-School Education in West Germany.

The report, the most comprehensive on the subject ever produced in this country, consists of over 1,800 pages in six volumes. The studies for the project started eight years ago.

Nickel said that the kinderladen set up and run by parents had a beneficial effect on the traditional kindergarten system, just as the free schools at the beginning of this century had positively influenced the state educational system of the time.

Nickel refused to take sides for one or the other form, rejecting fanatical advocacy of either system: "Kinderladens are better than their reputation and kindergartens aren't bad either."

The founders of the kinderladens objected to the traditional kindergartens on the ground that they were merely places where children were kept. Also, they attacked the increasing tendency for kindergartens to become more and more like school proper, with all kinds of daunting aptitude tests.

Kinderladen supporters in varying degrees rejected adult guidance of children. They said children ought to be allowed to satisfy their needs without outside interference and should be encouraged to be more independent in overcoming conflicts. The few studies of everyday life in traditional kindergartens up to the beginning of the seventies showed that kindergarten teachers tended to show a strong guiding hand and children were given little encouragement to act independently.

And research on the success of the

kinderladens was equally sketchy. All that was available were statements by parents who had founded kinderladens and lists of the goals they had set themselves.

Given this situation, Professor Nickel and his team at the Department of Educational and Developmental Psychology at Düsseldorf University worked on the assumption that the attitude and behaviour of kinderladen parents and children differed considerably from those of kindergarten parents and children.

However, the results of their research have called this initial assumption into question.

A study by the German Peace Research Association in Bonn showed that there was not much to choose between kindergartens and kinderladens in their handling of children. Both tended to adopt policies of guiding and directing and of stimulating and encouraging the children.

Teachers in both school forms did not — on the whole — pay much attention to the children's feelings. Kinderladen teachers showed rather more concern for the children's feelings and encouraged them more.

However, the difference between the two was not so great as to justify the argument that here were two completely different forms of pre-school education.

The tendency to classify kinderladen

as anti-authoritarian and kindergartens as authoritarian was simply incorrect, the report says.

The report also stressed that there was no such thing as a typical kinderladen type of teacher as opposed to a typical kindergarten type of teacher. It said that a distinction could be made between three "relatively homogeneous" types:

The encouraging, stimulating type showed feelings herself. When dealing with the children, she frequently addressed them personally and gave them a lot of help.

The second kind of teacher is more emotionally neutral and not so encouraging. He or she makes more use of warnings, orders and prohibitions than the other two types.

The third type of teacher is neither unfriendly nor especially friendly. He does little to encourage the child's initiative, has few ideas and gives few orders. He has little contact with individual children.

Whereas the two last types were almost equally spread over kindergartens and kinderladens, the first type of teacher was found, significantly, frequently in institutions with very favourable conditions such as small groups and more participation by parents.

About 50 per cent of all kinderladen teachers came into this category; for kindergartens, only 10 per cent.

A school in Hanover runs a two teacher system to help foreign children.

Classes involved have a German-language teacher and another who teaches, for example, in Turkish.

The system, which has been operating in special classes for four years, means that foreign children can be helped over difficult points in their own language.

At the same time, they must face the constant challenge of coping with tuition in German.

Jürgen Woth, headmaster of Egestorff primary school, said that in principle all teaching was in German.

The system was mainly for younger

Two-teacher elementary school classes taught bilingually

children. Older pupils take an extra five hours a week of tuition in their mother tongue, covering what was taught during the normal day.

Headmaster Woth says that this method is particularly useful for the teaching of subjects such as biology and geography. "After all it doesn't really matter whether pupils learn that a mouse is a mammal in German or in Turkish."

Hanover education officer Heinz Warmbold explained that both these schemes were designed to keep open for foreign pupils the possibility of returning home by giving them a good grounding in their native language but without burdening them too much with extra lessons.

It is clear that even without these extra lessons the foreign pupils have much greater problems than their German counterparts.

Most of them have difficulties at school because of language problems. Many also suffer from their social situation. Furthermore they have to cope with cultural differences.

Egestorff school in Hanover's working class area of Linden has seen a huge rise in the proportion of foreign pupils from 15 per cent in 1973 to 66 per cent this school year.

"We just had to think of something," said Woth. He says school marks show the experiments to be a success.

In Lower Saxony, as a whole, only about one third of foreign children pass

As with the teachers, so with the pupils. There was no one form of behaviour that was exclusively typical of the other school form.

Using a special scientific method, the Düsseldorf scientists divided between five different types of children which were to be found in both forms: dependent and insecure, and depressed; inconspicuous and conforming; active and cooperative and aggressive.

There were two exceptions to the general finding. There was a slightly larger proportion of passive, dependent children in kindergartens and the cooperative type of child behaviour was found almost exclusively in kindergartens, especially those in which there was close contact between the child and the individual children.

Overall findings on parental behaviour and attitude show that there is clearly a kindergarten and a kinderladen type of parent.

Fathers and mothers who send children to kindergartens, the report found, tend far more towards a defensive and authoritarian behaviour than kinderladen parents.

Whom the report finds are more self-critical and partnerly in their behaviour and more interested in their children's emotions.

This was something which came to the fore in conflict situations, an area on which the study was particularly detailed.

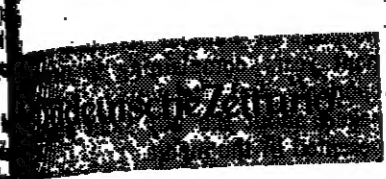
Children from kinderladens tend to be more tolerant and less aggressive in situations than their peers in kindergartens.

Renate J. Nickel

(Nordwest Zeitung, 27 Jan.)

HEALTH

Experts differ on 'under the weather' feeling



Changes in the weather can have direct physiological effects — hence the phrase "feeling under the weather." People get nervous, suffer from colds and their wounds hurt just as storms break or the spring storms start to blow.

The causes of this sensitivity to weather changes remain obscure — though it is certainly not for want of intensive scientific research.

The reason for this is of course the complexity of meteorological parameters.

Temperature, humidity and cloud cover are familiar factors here, but electrical phenomena also play a part; static electric fields, electromagnetic waves (microwaves) and air ions (electrically charged particles created by radioactivity, lightning storms and many other atmospheric processes).

The subject is so complex that an interdisciplinary approach is called for but specialists still concentrate on narrow areas: electro-physicists study the influence of magnetic fields, meteorologists examine the effects on urine, atmospheric physicists study the ef-

fects of changes of air pressure in foehn areas.

So far there has been no broad-based project studying the interaction of all these factors.

Controversy in this area is fierce, as a recent article by Dr F.G. Sulman in the magazine *Umschau in Wissenschaft und Technik* underlines.

Sulman, of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, says that sensitivity to weather is physiological, especially in the case of headaches during the foehn. He proposes a new form of preventing and treating foehn sensitivity, ranging from the use of ion generators to the prescription of new kinds of tablets.

Sulman's argument revolves around a biochemical process in which the nerve hormone serotonin plays a key part.

He says that positive air ions, such as those in hot, dry desert winds, combine with changes in the static electrical field and with spheres to reduce the activity of an enzyme (monoamine-oxidase) which breaks down serotonin.

Sulman says that this leads to an excess of serotonin in the body; the symptoms of this are insomnia, nervousness, irritability, migraine, pains in scars and wounds, oedema, palpitations of the heart and numerous other symptoms.

It is known that the nerve hormone serotonin plays an important part in the transmission of nerve impulses especial-



Spring clean your first-aid box

Sooner or later old medicine is junked, but dustbin and drain are not the right places for pills so old you can't remember what they were for. Bonn Interior Minister Gerhart Baum has welcomed a scheme launched by Cologne refuse disposal department and the cathedral city's pharmacists to persuade people to turn in old medicine at the chemist's, where it is collected and destroyed safely in a way that is sure not to endanger the environment.

(Photo: Globus-Press)

ly in the mid-brain, where important centres for sleep and mood are.

There is a considerable weight of evidence which supports Sulman's argument. Experiments with rats have shown that negative air ions have the opposite effect, reducing serotonin content.

If one accepts Sulman's thesis, it is quite plausible that by using ion generators to create negative ions or drugs to reduce serotonin levels, foehn sensitivity can be cured.

However, in the correspondence which followed publication of the article, several scientists wrote in strongly rejecting Sulman's views.

H. Dolezalek, director of a commission studying atmospheric electricity in the US state of Virginia, showed that Sulman had made serious errors in his analysis of air ions and spheres.

P. Kröning of the Medical Balneology and Climatology Department of Munich University, and R. Reiter of the Fraunhofer Institute of Atmospheric Research in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, said that it was wrong to apply Sulman's findings about hot desert winds to the foehn. They said that there was no appreciable change in the ion concentration in the case of the foehn.

Physicist K. Dirnagl of the Department of Balneology and Climatology referred to studies which showed that the frequency of weather-sensitivity was closely related to "differences between the morning air temperature and the average air temperature of the preceding days." Another important factor, he wrote, was air humidity.

He added that these studies had established no connection whatever between the concentration of negative or positive air ions or variations of electric field and weather sensitivity.

Atmospheric physicist R. Mühleisen of Trier University wrote that electrical phenomena in the air could not be the cause of complaints, as the high degree of dilution of the air ions (the relation of air ions to the uncharged atoms and molecules in the air is less than one to a million billion) and hence the weakness of the electric field meant that biological effects could be ruled out.

Mühleisen did say that variations in atmospheric pressure in the infrasound area such as were found in the foehn could affect our well-being.

Mühleisen's dismissal of air electrical factors clashes with a number of find-

ings. H. König of Munich Technical University discusses occurrences in a Munich print works which were analysed by scientists from Munich Technical University: unknown meteorological factors in a fully air-conditioned room kept on causing gelatine film — needed for the preparation of printing cylinders — to coagulate.

This phenomenon was observed to occur over irregular intervals for several years.

Suspecting the influence of electrical phenomena, the scientists built a Faraday box around the machine to keep off the electrical fields.

And since then the phenomenon has not recurred.

'Miracle cure' ion generator makes a comeback

König says it has been proved that electrical phenomena in the air can have biological effects.

However, he is more sceptical about the probable effectiveness of the ion generator as a means of prevention of weather sensitivity. Admittedly, he says, it can sometimes be advisable to reproduce the outdoor climate indoors.

To do this, König argues, more than air ions is needed. Static and dynamic fields are also important factors. The complicated electrical phenomena in the air made it essential to consult experts — especially in the case of ion generators, where generator faults could cause serious side effects.

In the 1930s ion generators were praised as a miracle cure for all kinds of illnesses but the American Food and Drug Administration has banned their use as verging on charlatanism.

To prevent dishonest advertising methods, the authority has banned the sale of ion generators as medical cures.

Generator producers have switched to praising the "undoubted air-purifying qualities of the generators."

The American magazine *Science* reports that despite all official scepticism the ion generator is making a comeback. In 1980 alone the industry sold 10 million dollars' worth of generators — an impressive total considering that they cost between \$80 and \$160 each.

Michael Becker

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 January 1981)



One pupil in four in Class 2C at this primary school in the Ruhr steel city of Solingen is a foreigner — the highest proportion in the country. (Photo: Poly-Press)

about one third of foreign children pass

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 Jan.)

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■ DISABLED

Psychologist, height 3ft 9¼in, explains what life is like when you're so short

Ernst Klee, who wrote this article, directed a Sender Freies Berlin TV documentary about Ortrun Schott and her late brother Erhard. It was screened nationwide on 4 February to mark the International Year of the Disabled.

Psychologist Ortrun Schott wrote to me some years ago: "I am 1 metre 15 cms (3ft 9¼ in) tall. When I stretch, I can reach 1 m 35 cms with my fingertips."

Up to this time, I had thought of small people as circus dwarves and clowns. I knew that in the past they often became court jesters, clowns, jokers.

"Pachyrembel," the standard medical work, distinguishes between "short people" and dwarves.

In popular parlance, short people are referred to as Lilliputians, though many do not realise that Lilliputians is the name of the thumb-sized people in Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*.

The Holiday Park in the Rhineland Palatinate, near Hassloch, suggests that short people are a special category of human being altogether. Tens of thousands of normal people visit this park every year and walk through the dwarf town, buy souvenirs in the dwarf shop, take their children on rides on the Lilliput Express and visit a museum telling about the history of the Lilliputians.

In the Park little people are exhibited in small cosy houses with doll's house style furniture. The town even has its own mayors. A small brochure "enlightens" visitors: "What is life like in Lilliput? How does this intelligent, cheerful little race live and love? What are Lilliputians?"

The answer underlines the difference between Lilliputians and dwarves: "Lilliputians are not pitiable people, or little monsters. Our Lilliputians do not come into this category. Their shortness is caused by a glandular disorder, not a disease."

I can still remember my first meeting with Ortrun Schott. I was standing at the top of the steps. She more or less had to climb up the steps as if they were real obstacles.

In her arm she had a shopping bag for normal-sized people. The bag dragged along the ground and half covered her. As I am 1.88 metres (well over 6ft), I towered over her like a giant. I felt ill at ease and embarrassed.

Ortrun Schott was born in 1929. Her father, who was a Professor of Oriental Studies, had children of normal height. Three others were short.

Today, Ortrun Schott works as a psychologist in Düsseldorf.

But these are just superficial data. Her real biography is typical of the many short people who object to being compared with the dwarves and Lilliputians of fairy tales.

When she was at kindergarten, she was put with younger children. And when she went to primary school, she was continually taunted. Stones were thrown at her.

Even today, some adults laugh out loud when they see her, as if a real live garden gnome had crossed their path.

She recalls the embarrassed silence in her family home when she asked at the dinner table one day: "Why am I so small?"

Every evening she used to play a game with her sister in which they dreamt of the future, of marrying and having five children. The imaginary children were given names and characters. One evening Ortrun realised that she would never marry, but she went on playing because she did not want to spoil her sister's fun.

She soon realised that no man is wants to love a woman 1.15 metres tall. She studied her "role." She read Grimm's *Fairy Tales* to find out if all "dwarves" were really wicked.

She read books, such as those of Bernanos and Le Fort, in which suffering is explained in Christian terms. From then onward, she believed that suffering was the purpose of her life.

Ortrun Schott and other short people have formed The Association of Short People. I went with her to the association's annual meeting. Yet though there are 20,000 to 50,000 short people in this country — no one knows the exact figures — only 200 are members of the association.

They cannot complain about lack of press interest in the organisation. Getting the short people to pose with the tallest waiter makes a good photo, but what else does it achieve?

The association's spokesman said there

were no clowns among them. Their members included administrators, clerks, salesmen, physicists, even a doctor from the Max Planck Institute.

The aim here is clear. They want to get away from the image of the clown, away from the Lilliputian circus.

Thanks to their lobbying, the Bonn government has deleted all references to dwarves from its legislation and recognised people shorter than 1 m 40 cms as severely handicapped (shortness is a growth disorder).

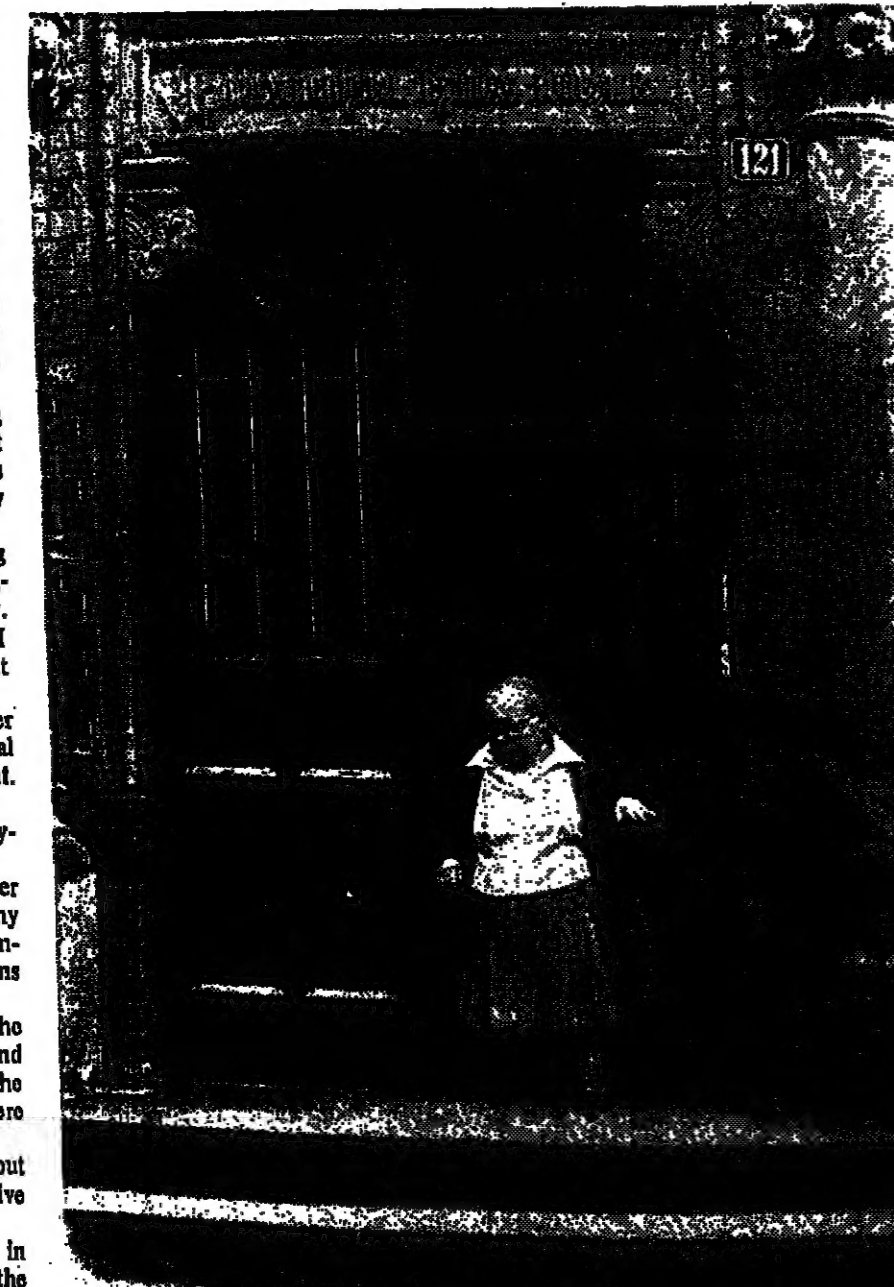
But people on the street still crack jokes about them and find them, at best, "cute."

The annual meetings are mainly to get together seek partners. The press spokesman explained that the meetings ended with a farewell ball.

"This is the most important event of the year for the small people, especially short women, who can wear their evening dress for once."

Once a year they want to be among themselves, without having to endure mocking looks and remarks ("Do they eat small portions, too?").

When I first went to the annual meeting, a short woman asked me to dance. Embarrassed, I refused. At which a short man said: "Now you know what we always feel like."



Ortrun Schott makes doors look enormous and stairs look like giant's causeways

Next time, I was asked to go again. The woman said: "If you are harassed, we can dance at the ball. When they are celebrating among themselves, every tall adult is bound to like an intruder."

Ortrun Schott is an outsider in a group. She has made it her task to explain what people who are teased about the butts of humour feel like. She spent years complaining to newspaper reporters and television program makers about the way short people are presented in the media.

"We are only shown for a glib, humorous number."

This had led many members of the association to criticise her for taking part in a television program. Envy creeps into the criticism.

The short do not get much recognition and so it is that they askance at one of their number who is some kind of prominence on TV.

Ortrun Schott, seeking her own tiny, is no longer prepared to repeat the mistakes of the past. She wants to tell people many short people only go out at night. Her brother, Erhard, who was short, committed suicide because of the tempt to which he was exposed — he was working on a PhD in philosophy.

He recorded his humiliations in a diary: "The Diary of an Ugly Dwarf." When he was a child, a local girl told him: "You're afraid you'll never get a wife." Elsewhere he wrote: "I am understood, sad clown, Toulouse-Lautrec expect a little more nowadays — a faded-fat salute at least."

His diaries are full of resentment being judged by his size only and on his human qualities.

There are places where he feels God as pitiful, only to ask his forgiveness later.

Hopes of student movement Justice, humanity, love

Then there are his hopes, especially the student movement, in which he took part. He hoped it would bring more justice — and this means humanity, more love.

The dream of the short person is to have a partner of normal height. Even Erhard Schott wrote in his diary that if he could not have a normal partner he would take a handsome girl — as a second choice. And the short person marries another short person, great importance is attached to man being at least two centimetres taller than the woman.

Shortness and inferiority complex are closely related. It is difficult to be oneself seriously if others do not take one seriously.

Short people find it difficult to be accepted. Many members of the association feel excluded and try to compensate for this by coming over as a happy bunch of people who meet every day for a moonlight trip over the Wall in Berlin.

But this annual gathering, this celebration, is hardly going to make the society change its attitudes towards them.

In this annual game of revenge they regard it as treachery when one of them dares to talk frankly about despair, their feeling that no one understands them, that they are constantly being pitied rather than respected.



Peter Angerer (Photo: Sven Simon)

West German Peter Angerer was runner-up to East Germany's Ullrich in the 10,000 metres at the Nordic skiing biathlon World Cup in Ruhpolding, Bavaria, on 1 February.

Angerer, 21, was very much the local hero. His father is a prison warden in a small town in the Chiemgau district of Bavaria.

He was not his first international honour. He is the reigning world champion in the biathlon and was voted Sportsman of the Year last year.

That did not make him an old victor at victory poses. A winsome smile and no problem, but press photographers expect a little more nowadays — a faded-fat salute at least.

In their group the German girls had convincingly beaten France 14-1, Scotland 13-3 and Spain 13-0 to reach the

Bundeswehr non-commissioned officer's ground and was

■ SPORT

Unassuming Bavarian wins biathlon crown

happy to oblige, not forgetting to present his skis, the brand that won him silver.

Was it absolutely necessary to get his skis into the picture? "It seemed no more than their due in the circumstances," he calmly commented, which was doubtless true.

Peter Angerer is that increasingly rare bird among top-flight West German athletes, a man whose claim to fame and the performance on which the claim is based are not out of proportion.

Maybe Nordic skiing in general and the biathlon in particular (his speciality since age 13) explain this gratifying sense of proportion.

For the biathlon you have to be on your toes virtually all the year round, yet on the day a single shot misfired only

marginally can put paid to championship hopes.

Angerer may have won his first event of the season at Pontresina in December, but so far he has always felt, by virtue of bitter experience, that you can learn most from failure.

His winning smile and shock of blond hair are enough to set hearts fluttering regardless of his sporting honours, yet only two days before his silver medal at Ruhpolding he tasted bitter defeat.

He had risked too much and forfeited all. This time, he promised himself, he was going to do better: "I must get my rhythm right today."

This was a reference to the shooting: five shots lying down in between 45 and 50 seconds and five shots taken from a standing position in between 40 and 45 seconds.

He took his time and made sure of his mark, just as he kept to his own pace over the distance. "For the first time in ages it all went just right again," he said.

With 10 days to go the world championships in Lahti, Finland, he came to a further personal conclusion: "Nothing works out unless I am all excited."

He had certainly been looking forward to Ruhpolding and the appreciative Bavarian crowd. It was not just a matter of his own reputation either.

"It did us all a power of good," he explained, generously including his team-mates. Suddenly an established star and no longer a promising youngster, he had no hesitation in sharing his triumph with the others.

Only once the hullabaloo was over did he find the time to think of himself. "I reckon I've earned a week's holiday this spring," he decided.

"One week only?" he was asked. "Oh yes," he unassumingly replied in unself-conscious Bavarian dialect, "that'll be enough."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 February 1981)

Clean sweep wins hockey title

semi-finals, in which they eliminated England 10-1.

It was double figures in all five games, taking them up to 24 international wins on the run. Canada, incidentally, came third by beating England 9-5 in a play-off.

Captain Birgit Hagen from Cologne, the only team member to have taken part in the previous two European championship wins, was presented with the trophy by Anke Brunn, Berlin's new woman Senator of Family and Youth Affairs and Sport.

"We all came to Berlin feeling sure we were going to clinch the title," Frau Hagen said, "but it is a great feeling nonetheless to have done so."

Birgit Hagen was a member of the 1976 women's field hockey team that won world championship honours for West Germany, the home team, also in West Berlin.

She was outstanding in the final, netting six goals, followed by Gaby Appel from Hamburg, two, and Christina

Moser and Corinna Lingnau, one each. Ulla Thielemann, Martina Koch and Sigrid Landgraf make up a trio of girls from Hanau, near Frankfurt, who were members of the winning team.

Holland, the reigning outdoor world champions, were beaten 4-2 into sixth place by Austria (and that after winning silver at Arns, France, in 1975 and Brussels, Belgium, in 1977).

Spain and France came seventh and eighth respectively.

"Without wanting to be supercilious, we were a foregone conclusion for successfully defending our European championship title," says manager Ströder.

"It will no doubt be a while before we have to concede our next defeat. The performance gap is simply too wide."

This was partly why the home team were partly playing with one eye on the outdoor world championships, to be held in Buenos Aires at the end of March.

"The five days here in Berlin have certainly done us a power of good as a team."

Birgit Hagen came first in the goal-scoring league, netting a total of 16. Christina Moser, 14, was runner-up, while Gaby Appel with 11 came fourth.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 2 February 1981)

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In Duisburg Franz Beckenbauer, soccer's Kaiser Franz, made short shrift of the home team.

Hamburg, his new club, cannot have been happy. Duisburg, anything but a star team, will have been over the moon at such an unexpected home win.

Clumsy Kaiser! It certainly was not his lucky day, especially as stylish play has always been Beckenbauer's hallmark.

He has stood straight as a die and shown both ease and grace in his dealings with both the ball and opposing players. Or at least, that is how the fans remember him and that is what earned him the nickname Kaiser.

Yet Kaiser Franz cannot be said to have done much to burnish his image since returning from New York to Germany. His ball play is by no means as consummate as it was before he quit Bayern Munich for Cosmos.

Have three years of dolce vita in the US operetta league been to blame? Or is Beckenbauer, as sceptics forecast from the start, too old at 35 for the blood and

Beckenbauer's 100 days

guts of Saturday soccer on Bundesliga pitches?

It would be wrong to write him off at this stage, to splash doubts as banner headlines, just as it would be premature to call for his return as sweeper to the national team.

National team manager Jupp Derwall is being careful. He wants to see how Beckenbauer gets on before making up his mind. Franz readily accepts this outlook, saying:

"My comeback as a member of the national team, possibly this spring, will depend on my form."

Administrations, Presidents, even emperors, have been known to claim 100 days' grace. It would be churlish not to grant Franz Beckenbauer the same privilege.

Stephan Balz

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 January 1981)